POL 14 VIETS
XR SOC 12-1 VIETS

Department of State TELEGRAM

(1060)
Saigon 5634
9-1167

CONFIDENTIAL

EXCISE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 05634 111123Z

47
ACTION EA 19

INFO GPM 03,SC 01,RSC 01,USIA 12,H 02,NSC 10,NSAE 00,L 03,INR 07,P 04,
CIA 04,DOD 01,SP 02,SS 35,SAH 03,SAL 01,IO 21,AID 30,RSR 01,
/160 W

R 110930Z SEP 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE.WASHDC 6594
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4199
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2491

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5634

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

b-1 ed

1. ISSUE OF HOW MANY CATHOLIC ELECTED TO SENATE STILL ATTER OF SOME CONFUSION, WITH VARIOUS EMBASSY CONTACTS ESTIMATING BETWEEN 20 AND 40. IN COURSE OF PREPARING UP-DATED BIO MATERIAL ON SENATE (SEPTEL). EMBOFF REVIEWED AVAILABLE INFO WITH [redacted] BOTH OF WHICH HAVE BEEN VERY RELIABLE FOR INFO OF THIS SORT IN PAST. [redacted] LISTS 21 CATHOLICS AND PERHAPS ONE ADDITIONAL, UNCERTAINTY RESULTING FROM FACT THERE IS AT LEAST ONE AND MAYBE SEVERAL LAPSED CATHOLICS AMONG

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 5634 C O N F I D E N T I A L
SENATORS ELECTED.

2. [redacted] POINTS OUT THERE WERE 69 KNOWN CATHOLICS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A'CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 12/24/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 05634 111123Z

AMONG 480 CANDIDATES FOR SENATE, THAT 25 OF 48 SENATE LISTS HAD ONE OR MORE CATHOLICS ON THEM AND THAT ONLY 23 LISTS HAD NO CATHOLICS. NU QTE CATHOLIC UNQTE LIST AS SUCH (I. E., ALL CATHOLIC) ELECTED. LIST 44 (VO QUI HY), MADE UP ENTIRELY OF SOUTHERN CATHOLICS, PLACED TWENTY-THIRD.

3. [redacted] TOLD EMBOFF SOME VICTORIOUS CATHOLIC SENATE CANDIDATES HAD APPROACHED [redacted] SEPT 10 FOR ADVICE ON WHETHER [redacted] DESIRABLE FORM CATHOLIC BLOC IN SENATE. [redacted] STRONGLY ADVISED THEM NOT TO DO SO, AS THIS WILL ONLY LEAD TO TROUBLE. SINCE CATHOLICS ELECTED TO SENATE COME FROM ALL REGIONS OF COUNTRY AND FROM DIFFERENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL BACKGROUNDS, UNLIKELY THAT CATHOLICS WILL, IN FACT, VOTE AS BLOC.

BUNKER